

Subpart B—Requirements for Approval of Explosives

- 15.20 Technical requirements.
- 15.21 Tolerances for ingredients.
- 15.22 Tolerances for performance, wrapper, and specific gravity.

Subpart C—Requirements for Approval of Sheathed Explosive Units or Other Explosive Units Designed to be Fired Outside the Confines of a Borehole

- 15.30 Technical requirements.
- 15.31 Tolerances for ingredients.
- 15.32 Tolerances for weight of explosive, sheath, wrapper, and specific gravity.

AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 957.

SOURCE: 53 FR 46761, Nov. 18, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 15.1 Purpose and effective dates.

This part sets forth the requirements for approval of explosives and sheathed explosive units to be used in underground coal mines and certain underground metal and nonmetal gassy mines and is effective January 17, 1989. Those manufacturers proceeding under the provisions of the previous regulation may file requests for approval or extension of approval of explosives under that regulation until January 17, 1990. After January 17, 1990, all requests for approval or extension of approval of explosives or sheathed explosive units shall be made in accordance with Subpart A and the applicable subpart of this part. Explosives issued an approval under regulations in place prior to January 17, 1989, and in compliance with those regulations, may continue to be manufactured and marked as approved as long as no change to the explosive is made.

[FR 46761, Nov. 18, 1988; 54 FR 351, Jan. 5, 1989]

§ 15.2 Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this part.

Applicant. An individual or organization that manufactures or controls the production of an explosive or an explosive unit and that applies to MSHA for approval of that explosive or explosive unit.

Approval. A document issued by MSHA which states that an explosive or explosive unit has met the requirements of this part and which authorizes an approval marking identifying the explosive or explosive unit as approved as permissible.

Explosive. A substance, compound, or mixture, the primary purpose of which is to function by explosion.

Extension of approval. A document issued by MSHA which states that the change to an explosive or explosive unit previously approved by MSHA under this part meets the requirements of this part and which authorizes the continued use of the approval marking after the appropriate extension number has been added.

Minimum product firing temperature. The lowest product temperature at which the explosive or explosive unit is approved for use under this part.

Post-approval product audit. Examination, testing, or both, by MSHA of approved explosives or explosive units selected by MSHA to determine whether they meet the technical requirements and have been manufactured as approved.

Sheath. A chemical compound or mixture incorporated in a sheathed explosive unit and which forms a flame inhibiting cloud on detonation of the explosive.

Sheathed explosive unit. A device consisting of an approved or permissible explosive covered by a sheath encased in a sealed covering and designed to be fired outside the confines of a borehole.

Test detonator. An instantaneous detonator that has a strength equivalent to that of a detonator with a base charge of 0.40–0.45 grams PETN.

[FR 46761, Nov. 18, 1988; 54 FR 351, Jan. 5, 1989]

§ 15.3 Observers at tests and evaluation.

Only personnel of MSHA, designees of MSHA, representatives of the applicant, and such other persons as agreed upon by MSHA and the applicant shall be present during tests and evaluations conducted under this part.

[70 FR 46342, Aug. 9, 2005]